

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 TRSE-00 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5688
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
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AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS DAKAR 6825

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, XY, SG
SUBJECT: ON DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS COLLOQUIUM

REF: DAKAR 6667

1. THE COLLOQUIUM ON DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS CO-SPONSORED
BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS AND THE SENEGALESE
ASSOCIATION FOR JURIDICAL STUDY AND RESEARCH HELD ITS FINAL
SESSION IN DAKAR ON SEPTEMBER 12. THE GATHERING OF
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APPROXIMATELY 60 JURISTS WAS ADDRESSED BY MR. NIAL MACDERMOTT,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION, AND MR.
KEBA MBAYE, PRESIDENT OF THE SENEGALESE SUPREME
COURT, WHO CONGRATULATED THE PARTICIPANTS ON THE
SUCCESS OF THE WEEK-LONG (SEPTEMBER 7-12) COLLOQUIUM.

2. THE SUGGESTION WAS MADE BY SEVERAL OF THE 6

WORKING COMMISSIONS AND REITERATED BY MR. MACDERMOTT TO ESTABLISH ONE AFRICAN, OR SEVERAL REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS, POSSIBLY UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE OAU. "AFRICAN NEEDS ITS OWN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS TO BETTER ACCOMPLISH ITS HUMAN RIGHTS OBJECTIVES."

3. MR. MACDERMOTT UNDERSCORED THE TWO MAJOR POINTS MADE AT THE COLLOQUIUM: (1) HUMAN RIGHTS MUST BE SEEN AS AN ESSENTIAL DIMENSION TO DEVELOPMENT; NO STATE HAS THE RIGHT TO INVOKE DEVELOPMENT OR POLITICAL STABILITY TO REIMPOSE PRACTICES ROUNDLY CONDEMNED BY AFRICANS DURING THE COLONIAL PERIOD; (2) IT IS THE DUTY OF ALL GOVERNMENTS TO ENSURE HUMAN RIGHTS; THE EXECUTION OF THIS DUTY IS A PRE-CONDITION TO LENDING LEGITIMACY TO THESE GOVERNMENTS.
COHEN

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